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On March 15, the Italian steamship *Dinnamare*, bound in ballast for New Orleans, La.

On March 15, the steamship *Sicilia*, of the Hamburg-American Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 571 steerage passengers and 70 pieces of large and 745 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and nineteen pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On March 17, the steamship *Duchessa di Genova*, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 676 steerage passengers and 57 pieces of large and 849 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and sixteen pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On March 20, the steamship *Buenos Aires*, of the Spanish trans-Atlantic Line, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 533 steerage passengers and 27 pieces of large and 800 pieces of small baggage. One hundred and fifteen pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On March 20, the steamship *Manilla*, of the Italian General Navigation Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 1,188 steerage passengers and 170 pieces of large and 1,400 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and eighty-five pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

On March 21, the steamship *Trave*, of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company, bound with passengers and cargo for New York. There were inspected and passed 866 steerage passengers and 140 pieces of large and 1,470 pieces of small baggage. Two hundred and seventy-two pieces of baggage were disinfected by steam.

Baggage inspection.

On my arrival here there was no provision for making the baggage inspection under cover. The Italian Government had promised to provide a shelter for this purpose, but no progress had been made in the matter. Negotiations were at once commenced through the consul-general and the ambassador at Rome. After many discouragements, I am happy to report that a temporary shelter has now been provided, with a promise that we shall have permanent quarters in a new building which is about to be constructed for postal purposes.

Smallpox.

At the inspection of the steamship *Buenos Aires* a man was rejected who had been suffering with smallpox. The scaling was not yet complete, and it was thought better to detain him.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Inspection of emigrants at Palermo.

NAPLES, ITALY, *March 23, 1901.*

SIR: In accordance with Bureau orders of March 12 instant, directing me to proceed to Palermo for the purpose of inspecting emigrants bound for New York, I have the honor to report as follows:

On the night of March 17, I proceeded to Palermo. The next day I inspected the steamship *Duchessa di Genova*. The steamer was found in fairly good sanitary condition. There were 1,038 beds available for

steerage passengers, of which 813 were already occupied by passengers who had embarked at Genoa and Naples.

At Palermo there were inspected and passed 248 steerage passengers. One case of hernia was advised not to embark. On examining the figures it was found that there were more steerage passengers than there were places. The captain of the ship was informed about the matter, and he ordered at once that the surplus should be disembarked.

At Palermo many intending emigrants presented themselves for inspection. Among these many cases of trachoma and other diseases were found which would prevent their admittance to the United States. Many of the emigrants were very thankful for the opportunity afforded them to get advice on the probability of their being able to land in the United States without going to the expense of making the journey in order to find out. The trip to Palermo was made on the steamship which was to carry the Palermo emigrants to the United States. During the voyage one of the emigrants who had embarked at Genoa became insane. On my advice this case was disembarked at Palermo.

Respectfully,

VICTOR G. HEISER,
Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

JAPAN.

No further cases of plague in Osaka Fu—Total cases of plague in Japan from November, 1899, to January 31, 1901.

KOBE, JAPAN, *March 11, 1901.*

SIR: My report of January 31 last was sent to you on the steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro*, and has, therefore, been lost with the mails, so I am mailing a copy:

JANUARY 31, 1901.

SIR: On the 24th instant I notified Mr. Lyon, United States consul of Osaka and Hiogo, that there being no further case of plague in Osaka Fu, I thought it quite prudent to remove the restrictions placed on the shipments of merchandise from Osaka Fu. This was accordingly done. On the 25th instant I received through Dr. Stuart Eldridge, of Yokohama, a copy of your cablegram "pass oranges." The shippers were notified on the same day.

In all there have been 223 cases of plague in Japan since its appearance in November, 1899. The following shows in what prefectures the disease has appeared: Hiogo Ken, 26; Osaka Fu, 157; Shidzuoka Ken, 20; Wakayama Ken, 17; Hiroshima Ken, 1; Fukuoka Ken, 1; Nagasaki Ken, 1.

Respectfully,

J. BUCKWILL FOWLER,
*Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Sanitary Inspector, Kobe.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Bill of health for the steamship Tacoma temporarily withheld.

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *March 13, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that an appointment having been made with the agency of the Northern Pacific Steamship Company yesterday morning, for the inspection of the steamship *Tacoma*, at 4 o'clock, p. m., of the same day, the ship being advertised to leave at daylight this morning, upon going aboard I found that 2 members of the crew, not including the captain, and 1 Chinese passenger from Hongkong had been permitted to go ashore, without reason, and that their whereabouts and probable time of return were unknown.